Report of the Honourable Mr. Justice Orde.

By a Royal Commission issued under The Public Inquiries Act (R.S.O. 1914 chap. 18) and dated the 26th day of October, 1926, I was appointed Commissioner "to hold and conduct "an inquiry and investigation and to report upon the matters "referred to in the Resolution of the High School Board of the "City of Ottawa, passed on the 14th day of October, 1926, which "Resolution reads as follows:-

"Whereas Rev. E.B. Wyllie has recently at a meeting of the Pre-Synod Conference of the Montreal-Ottawa Synod of the Presbyterian Church in Canada made a statement referring to conditions alleged to exist in the Collegiate Institutes in this City;

And Whereas the statement has caused uneasiness and apprehension amongst the parents of the children attending these schools;

And Whereas the Board is of the opinion that it is necessary in the public interest and to allay such uneasiness and apprehension that a full investigation be made into the various matters alleged;

Be it Resolved that the Board request the Honourable Minister of Education to appoint a Commissioner pursuant to the Inquiries Act to investigate the conditions so alleged to exist in the Ottawa Collegiate Institutes."

For the purpose of assisting me upon the Inquiry
I appointed Mr. J. Lorn McDougall, of Ottawa, Barrister, as
Counsel and also engaged the services of a stenographic reporter
to report and transcribe any evidence adduced.

After communicating with Mr. McDougall and and the Secretary of the Collegiate Institute Board I fixed the 9th day of November, 1926, and the County Court House at Ottawa as the date and place for the opening of the Inquiry. I also caused public notice of such date and place to be published twice in each of the two leading daily newspapers in Ottawa and that all persons desiring to do so might appear for the purpose of making such representations and tendering such

CETAMA COMMISSION COMPANIANT.

.and enliant . The Hopensonoi eds to strong

Inquintes Act (8.2.0. 1914 onep. 16) and dated the Soin day of Jaquintes Act (8.2.0. 1914 onep. 16) and dated the Soin day of Jaquintes, 1920. I was suppointed usual sationer "to hold and oundwer an inputry and invasibles and so papert apon the matters "referred to in the Resolution of the High School Board of the "dity of Ottawa, passed on the 16th day of Cetober, 1926, which "Resolution reads as Tollows:-

"Thereas Nev. R.B. Wyllis has recently at a meeting of the Fra-Typied Conference of the Montreal-Ottems Cynod of the Fraebytarian Church in Canada ands a characteristic to conditions alleged to exist in the Collegists institutes in this City;

and Thorese the otetorent has caused unessiness and opprehension amongst the purents of the children sitending these advocin;

and Thereas the Scard is of the opinion that it is necessary in the public interest and to allay such an anessiness and apprehension that a full investigation be made into the various matters alloyed;

Be it localed the Board request the Search request the Commission or Bundared to the Eppoint a Commission or parament to the Inquiries ast to investigate the consistence to be allegated to the Commissions.

Tow the marcore of mest still me near the Inquire

I appointed Mr. J. Jorn McDougell, of Ottawn, Berrister, es Counsel and clao engaged the services of a cronographic reporter to report and trapportion any svidence adduced.

are been bus blagunder . to dolw galder immany a world

Are the of the deliver one institute Board I rived the the day of the Board in the set of the Sound of the County Court Board at Others are the days and place for the Opening of the Institut. I show the days and place for the Sound days and place to be published to the set in each of the two locating the set place in the Sound the Sound that the set in the set

evidence as they might see fit.

As the inquiry was the result of certain statements alleged to have been made by the Rev. Dr. E.B. Wyllie, the pastor of Erskine Presbyterian Church in Ottawa, and the Moderator of the Local Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, I wrote to him on the 30th of October, 1926, informing him that I had been appointed for the purpose of making the inquiry, that the inquiry would open on the 9th November, 1926, that Mr. McDougall had been appointed for the purpose of assisting in the conduct of the inquiry, and asking him to let me know what were the conditions which he alleged to exist in the Collegiate Institutes in Ottawa which had occasioned the passing of the resolution and the appointment of the Commission and I suggested that he should see Mr. McDougall and discuss matters with him. I also informed Dr. Wyllie that Mr. McDougall would assist him in securing the attendance before me of any witnesses whom he might suggest.

Although Mr. McDougall had had an interview with Dr. Wyllie several days before the opening of the Inquiry, and both Mr. McDougall and I had had an interview with him on the day before, up to the opening of the inquiry on the 9th of November, 1926, Dr. Wyllie had not furnished either Mr. McDougall or myself with any particulars of the conditions which he alleged to exist, or with the names of any witnesses who might be called for the purpose of verifying his statements. I was therefore compelled at the opening of the Commission to proceed with the statements which had been fublished in the daily press as a foundation for the inquiry.

At a meeting of the Pre-Synod Conference of the Synod of Montreal and Ottawa of the Presbyterian Church in Canada held in Erskine Presbyterian Church, Ottawa, on the 12th October, 1926, during the course of a discussion as to the facilities for training students for the ministry in the Presbyterian Church, Dr. Wyllie, in urging the establishment

evidence as they might see fit.

As the inquiry was the result of dertain otationers slleged to have been mede by the Rev. IN. E.S. Wyllie, the gastor of Erekine Prechyterian Church in Ottawa, and the Moderator of the booal Prechytery of the Prechyterian Church in Canada, I wrote to him on the SOth of October, 1826, informing him that I had been appointed for the purpose of meking the inquiry, that the inquiry would open on the Sth November, 1826, that Mr. MoDougall had been appointed for the guryose of assisting in the conduct of the inquiry, and saking him to let me know what were the conditions which he alleged to axist in the Collegiste Institutes in Ottawa which had occasioned the passing of the resolution and the appointment of the Commission and I suggested that he should see Mr. MoDougall and discuss matters with him. I siso informed the attendance hafors me of any witnesses whom he might suggest.

Wyllie several days before the opening of the Inquiry, and both Mr. MoDougall and I had had an interview with him on the day before, up to the opening of the inquiry on the 9th of Movember, 1925, Dr. Wyllie had not furnished either Mr. McDougall or myself with any particulars of the occiditions which he alleged to exist, or with the names of any witnesses who might be called for the purpose of verifying his state—wents. I was therefore compelled at the opening of the Commission to proceed with the statements which had been fubblished in the daily press as a foundation for the inquiry.

. TH driv welvie fal me bed had flaggedlow . Th Agreet la

At a meeting of the Pre-Synod Conference of the Synod of Mentresh and Ottawa of the Presbyterism Church in Canada held in Erskine Presbyterian Church, Ottawa, on the 12th October, 1925, during the course of a disposation as to the Pacilities for training students for the ministry in the Presbyterian Church, Dr. Wyllie, in argine the establishment



of a residential school for boys under the auspices of the Presbyterian Church, made certain statements which were published in the Ottawa evening newspapers the same day. It is not necessary to set out this newspaper articles in full. I quote from them the more important passages with an occasional explanatory comment as follows:

- "The influence of the Collegiates is not of the best for boys of thirteen years of age and up. Very often such boys are taught by immature women and girls."
- "Ottawa High Schools are well equipped, magnificent buildings and splendidly staffed and yet there are conditions prevailing in their yearly dances and gatherings that are simply unspeakable and that no parents can view without considerable alarm."

He "did not wish to suggest there was no supervision but he claimed there could not be proper supervision with only one principal and a vice principal for several thougand pupils."

These statements were published under striking head lines and appear to have created some alarm and commotion among the citizens of Ottawa, and at the following meeting of the Conference held on the 13th October, 1926, in Erskine Presbyterian Church Dr. Wyllie referred to the newspaper reports and was reported to have said that he did not withdraw an inch from the stand he had taken at the Conference, but that he made it clear as he had emphasized when making the statement that his condemnation was sweeping and concerned not only the local Collegiate Institutes, representative of the system, but the whole co-educational character of high schools and further that:

- "Hundreds of parents in Ottawaview with alarm the entrance of their children, especially the boys, into the Collegiate Institutes of Ottawa. Large classes, short class hours, the impossibility of proper control over the pupils, is the cause of the trouble."
- "Brilliant students may go right through the collegiates and high schools unscathed, and possibly never aware that anything is wrong. But the average pupil, especially if he wants to make himself a good fellow, gets this unhealthy atmosphere. Discipline in these schools, and the attitude of pupil towards teacher, is abominable. Pupils boast of the manner in which they 'sauce' their instructors."

.

of a residential school for boys under the auspices of the Presbyterian Church, made certain statements which were published in the Ottaws evening newspapers the same day. It is not necessary to set out this newspaper articles in full. I quote from them the more important passages with an occasional explanatory comment as follows:

"The tor los collegiates is not of the best for boys of thirteen years of age and up. Very often such boys are taught by immature women and girls."

"Ottawa High Schools are well equipped, magnificent buildings and aplendidly staffed and yet there are conditions prevailing in their yearly dances and gatherings that are simply unapeakable and that no parents can view without considerable alarm."

-reque on naw erent taegans of dalw for bib" eH -reque regord ad not bluor etal bemislo an fud notely ton lation with only one principal and a vice principal for several thougand pupits."

These statements were published under striking head lines and appear to have orested some alarm and cormotion among the citizens of Ottawa, and at the following meeting of the Conference held on the 13th October, 1926, in Brakine Presbyterian Church Dr. Wyllie referred to the newspaper reports and was reported to have said that he did not with draw an inch from the stand he had taken at the Conference, but that he made it clear as he had emphasized when making the statement that his condemnation was awaeping and concerned not only the local Collegiate Institutes, representative of the system, but the whole co-educational character of high schools and further that:

"Hundreds of parents in Ottswaview with alarm the entrance of their children, especially the boys, into the Collegiate Institutes of Ottswa. Large classes, short class hours, the impossibility of proper control over the pupils, is the dause of the trouble."

[&]quot;Brilliant students may go right through the collegiates and high monools unscathed, and possibly never aware that anything is wrong. But the sverage capill, especially if he wante to make himself a good fellow, gets this unhealthy atmosphere. Discipline the these schools, and the stiltude of pupil towards teacher, is aboutable. Expils boast of the camer in which they 'eauce' their instructore."

On the 14th October, 1926, the Ottawa newspapers contained further statements alleged to have been made by Dr. Wyllie among them that he

"still maintains that there is a noticeable loosening of morals, disrespect for discipline and authority and the acquiring of habits very undesirable in children."

On the 14th October, 1926, he gave out a signed statement which was published in full in the daily papers from which the following extracts are taken:

"Now that the business and hurry of the Presbyterian Conference and synod are over, I wish to make a formal and exact statement of my part in the recent flamboyant orgy of newspaperism, which has stirred Ottawa throughout every class."

Then there is a reference to the occasion which brought forth his remarks on high school training and his proposal to establish a boys' residential school in the neighborhood of Ottawa. Then follows:

"In justification of this proposal I stated that the high school education in large cities was anything but what it might be; that moral conditions were such that many parents could not but view with alarm things which happened in connection with the social life of the high schools. I used the term 'unspeakable' which I admit, sounds worse than what I might have used to describe the same facts. I made reference, by way of illustration, to conditions in Ottawa collegiates, but insisted that our spendid equipment in buildings and personnel of the staff was not under attack, nor the object of my criticism.

"Subsequently I stated to the press, after their indulgence in head lines, that many parents in Ottawa viewed with actual regret and alarm the entrance of their boys and girls into the life of our high schools, that there was a noticeable loosening of morals, a disrespect of discipline and authority and the acquiring of habits very undesirable in children. I suggested that the reasons for this condition were the very limited period of time devoted to serious study, the massing of thousands of boys and girls in life that must of necessity be ansupervised, and the withdrawal of these children, due to the new social life of the high schools, during the day, and very frequently the evenings, from the accustomed home contacts."

Ou the leth October, 1985, the Ottawa newspapers contained further statements alleged to have been made by Dr. Wyllie among that he

6

"still maintains that there is a noticeable
loosening of morals, disrespect for discipline and
sotherity and the acquiring of habits very undesirable in children."

On the leth October, 1926, he gave out a signed etatement which was published in full in the daily paperulton which the following extracts are taken:

"Now that the business and harry of the Fresbyterian Conference and synod are over. I wish to make a formal and exact attement of my part in the recent flamboyant orgy of newspaperism, which has stirred Ottawa throughout every class."

Then there is a reference to the occasion which brought forth his remarks on high school training and his proposel to establish a boys' residential school in the neighborhood of Ottawa. Then follows:

"In justification of this proposal I stated that the high school education in large office was supthing but what it might be; that moral conditions were such that many parents could not but view with alarm things which happened in connection with the social life of the high schools. I used the term 'unspeakable' which I samit, sounds worse than what I might have used to describe the same facts. I made reference, by way of illustration, to conditions in Offices collegistes, but instated that our spandid equipment in buildings and personnel of the staff was not under attack, nor the object of my criticism.

"Subsequently I stated to the press, after their indulgence in head lines, that meny parents in Ottawa viewed with actual regret and alarm the antrance of their boys and girls into the life of our high schools, that there was a noticeable lossening of morals, a discipline and authority and the acquiring of habits very undesirable in children. I suggested that the reasons for this condition were the very limited period of time devoted to serious study, the massing of thousands of boys and girls in life that must of necessity be unsupervised, and the withdrewal high schools, during the day, and very frequently the evenings, from the accustomed home contacts."

"May I state that high school conditions are far from ideal. This is evidenced by the statements made during the last prohibition vote by the Ottawa Moderation League of the drinking parties common among high school That sort of statement was so insistently spread throughout Ontario that many of us had to believe It occurs to me that members of the high school board are members of the Moderation League. I suggest they assume their share of responsibility for charging hip-flask drinking at social functions attended by these boys and girls. Moreover, I seriously question if the high school board or teaching staff are in very close relation with the morals of these thousands of boys and girls outside of the classroom. I have at least good reason to believe that they know very little of actual conditions."

He then refers to three telephone communications made that day by people who stated that they were parents but who did not give their names, of a general and indefinite character.

The signed statement further proceeded as follows:

"The facts are, that among so many hundreds of boys and girls many have unlimited money allowances, many come from homes where drinking and smoking by boys and girls are openly tolerated, some have their own private cars, many are children with the freedom and license of adults, but lacking the experience and balance. Many of the boys have the most profane habits of talk, and for all of these things our high schools offer little or no corrective. Some of the board may say the school has nothing to do with these matters. My point is this — that the school should have everything to say, in union with the church and home."

"Schools are not merely for book-learning, but for the inculcation of ideals of manliness and womanliness, chivalry and honor."

"I certainly think a complete investigation of all our large city high schools should be conducted. This investigation should be done, not by the local and teaching staff who have their own interests to serve

"If the high school staff cannot handle this end of their jobs, and none of us are successful in everything, it bears out my argument that co-education, under these conditions, is not the ideal success which we might expect from the investment made by the city parents."

Tal are encilibros foodos daid tadt etate I wall" from ideal. This is evidenced by the statewents made moiterebold awasto sait yd stov moitididorg saal eds nalrub League of the drinking parties common among high school unpile. That sort of statement was so insistently system of had an to year tent charmon trodemond besige it. It occurs to me that members of the high school teagure I .eugsel noiteraboli off to eredmen ore breed they somme their where of responsibility for cherging htp-flask drinking at social functions attended by these boys and girls. Moreover, I seriously question vrev mi ere liste animoset to breed loomes spid ent li egod to shasmout esent to sistem ent mitw moitsler scole tesel is even I . mooreselo ent lo ebistuo ellig bus good reason to believe that they know very libile of ". snolithoo Lautos

He then refers to three telephone communications made that day by people who stated that they were parents but who did not give their names, of a general and indefinite character.

Digitized by the Internet Archive in 2011 with funding from

Ontario Council of University Libraries

balance. Many of the boys have the most professe habits of talk, and for all of these things our high schools offer little or no corrective. Some of the board may say the school has nothing to do with these matters. My point is this -- that the school should have everything to say, in union with the church and home."

"Schools are not merely for book-learning, but for the inculoation of ideals of manliness and womanliness, chivalry and honor."

"I certainly think a complete investigation of all our large city high schools should be conducted.
This investigation should be done, not by the local and teaching staff who have their own interests to serve

"If the high school staff cannot handle this end of their jobs, and none of us are successful in everything, it bears out my argument that co-education, under these conditions, is not the ideal success which we might expect from the investment made by the city parents."

Dr. Wyllie was present when the newspaper reports of what he had stated, including his own formal statement, were put in by Mr. McDougall, and I thereupon requested him to supplement his statements in any way he might see fit and if possible to throw light upon the situation which he alleged to exist.

During the course of his address to me he made the following statements:-

"I made statements in the conference of our church, and necessarily I should have had some reason for making them. The statement I made was very modified and very mild. To support that proposition of residential schools as a church enterprise, I stated that generally conditions were not satisfactory and were occasioning a great deal of alarm to parents in all the high schools and in Ottawa. Now what I wish to say this morning is simply to show that I had ample reason for making that statement."

"Some of these things were a matter of common talk among parents all over the city; others have been communicated to me confidentially by parents."

"Now in that first address I used the term 'unspeakable'. After that I said I might have used a
term a little less objectionable, but frankly, your
Lordship, some of the things are unspeakable. I am
very loth to mention them in a group of men, because
they are matters -- well, they are sordid and disgusting.

At this stage some objection was taken to Dr. Wyllie's making statements which had come to him from other persons and which so far as their evidential character was concerned must be hearsay. I ruled however that I was not whooly governed by the ordinary rules of evidence and that I would prefer to hear what had come to Dr. Wyllie's ears, in the hope that what he had heard would enable me to trace the source of his information and get at the bottom of the rumours and the unrest which he alleged existed. I had gathered from the statements appearing in the press including Dr. Wyllie's own formal statement, and from what he had stated to Mr. McDougall and myself the day before, that he would furnish me with particulars of the conditions which he alleged,

together with the names of persons who would be able to verify his statements. He then proceeded to state in some detail, and with more particularity than had theretofore, the nature of his charges. The first of these had reference to the dances which had been held either under the auspices of or in connection with the two Collegiate Institutes in These charges had reference to two different types One type was what is known as a "Form Dance" of dances. held frequently outside the school buildings and the other comprised dances held by a society known as "The Collegians" which had no connection with the school whatever. The gist of his charges in connection with these danges was that parents were misled into the belief that they were conducted under the same strict control as those dances which are held in the Collegiate buildings and are directly under the supervision of the Principal and teaching staff. course of his address he stated that:

"The conditions in some of these dances have been anything but desirable. I am no prude. I know a good deal of life as it is today, and conditions have occurred at these dances which would make even the most worldly hesitate to have their children go, especially young girls."

The second charge had reference to what was alleged to have occurred after what is known as the Cadet dance held at the Glebe Collegiate Institute during the winter of 1925-26. As to that he said:

"There was a sleigh driving party held after the dance was over, which the pupils attended, went over to Hull, purchased a quantity of beer, and during the drive a good deal of roughness and drinking took place".

Later in his address he said that the party had been accompanied by a teacher.

The third charge was enclosed in a statement made to him by a woman whose name he declined to disclose, who had informed him that she had found a letter in the pocket of her son, who had been a pupil at one of the Collegiate Institutes but was now working, written to him by another pupil containing

r the second secon and the second s the same property of the format of the same of the sam r A . 1 : e · ,

a number of articles commonly used for immoral purposes and inviting him to meet her after school.

The fourth charge, referring further to what he termed "a very unfortunate and regrettable spirit of moral looseness prevalent among some boys" was as follows:-

"The lavatories in the Lisgar school have been covered -- the walls -- with obscene pictures, drawings and sayings and yet these have been there for weeks and weeks."

"the fact that these noxious things are written on lavatory walls and allowed to remain there suggests to me that there is a mighty noticeable laxity some place. Surely the janitor or the principal or someone would see that and it would be painted right over at once and a notice put up preventing it. That is a fact; that has been there for weeks."

A member of the Board who was present thereupon asked if this was Dr. Wyllie's own statement or if he was making it of his own knowledge whereupon Dr. Wyllie said:

Making it on the information of students in the Lisgar collegiate. I do not know whether they are there today or not, but they have been there for weeks."

Later Dr. Wyllie made this statement:

"Of course my statement was not at all based on the mingling of the sexes; I want to make that perfectly clear. The charges I made, if you call them charges, were as much insubordination, lack of discipline, lack of pupils adjusting themselves to a life's job.

We charge were beend on concern conditions

My charges were based on general conditions.

I say that in the mingling of the sexes in those ages there are unhealthy tendencies, and in the large schools such as we have here, where the teaching is arranged as it is and a good many of the teachers are women, the control of discipline of the boys is not what it ought to be.

[&]quot;It is just this; that there is not one woman teacher in fifty that understands growing boys and is fit to teach them.

. -: . the same of the sa and the same of th I THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF T , . * , r • for a state of the and the second s

The fifth statement was as follows:

Two years ago in the Citizen there was a long letter or article charging hip-flask drinking and hasty marriages among the pupils of the school. That was published; it did not create any comment. There was nothing done about it, although that letter was sent to the principal and an investigation asked by one of the mothers. Nothing was ever done about it."

Later Dr. Wyllie was asked some questions by Mr. McDougall, one of which was: "Now, Doctor, did you hear that the conditions were unsatisfactory at this Collegian dance? (Referring to the dance held under the auspices of "The Collegians Society") and Dr. Wyllie's answer was:- "Quite, as far as drinking is concerned".

Notwithstanding the serious nature of the charges made by Dr. Wyllie and the particulars which he purported to give, he did not then or at any time thereafter during the course of the inquiry furnish me or Mr. McDougall with the name of any witness to support or verify his statements. with the minor exceptions which will appear during the course I was therefore confronted with the someof this report. what extraordinary situation that a man occupying a position of prominence in the community had made several sweeping statements as to conditions governing the social life of the pupils in the Ottawa Collegiate Institutes of such a character as to indicate a great deal of laxity and impropriety in the conduct of the pupils, and a failure on the part of the school authorities to supervise those social events which came directly or indirectly under their control, and yet when called upon to verify and substantiate these statements he was either unable or unwilling to do 30.

the contract of the contract o * and the second s -; * the state of the same of the s the last terminal and the second seco #

If the matter before me had been an ordinary litigious one, the inquiry would have stopped there and then and Dr. Wyllie's charges would have been dismissed for lack of evidence to support them, but in justice to the Board and to the public something more seemed necessary and I proceeded with the inquiry in the endeavour, with the slender information given by Dr. Wyllie, to find out what foundation, if any there was for Dr. Wyllie's statements. It became incombent upon me therefore to procure what evidence was reasonably available upon the matters referred to by Dr. Wallie, and for that purpose a large number of witnesses were called and examined before me. These included of the school staff Dr. A. H. McDougall, , who has been principal of the Ottawa Collegiate Institute for 22 years and before that had been the senior mathematical master for 15 years. Mr. I. T. Norris, the Vice-principal, Mr. W. B. Riadell, the Cadet Instructor, Mr. A.A. Burridge and Mr. R. D. Campbell, the physical instructors at the Lisgar and Glebe Collegiate Institutes respectively, Mr. J. A. Sonley, Miss Jessie Muir, Mr. D. M. Clark, Mr. L. E. Shannette and Miss Helen Cowie, members of the teaching staff, James Eggins and T. A. Armstrong, the janitors of the Lisgar and Glebe Collegiate building respectively, Donald Lynn a former pupil of the Collegiate Institutewho had been in the habit of reporting some of the dances for the daily press and T. H. Neville a boy of eighteen years of age who was the head boy at the Glebe Collegiate Institute. In addition to these one witness a lady, who had children at the Collegiate Institute, whose name was not made known, but was given to me privately, was also examined at the request of Dr. Wyllie; and certain statements were also made by Mr. Cecil Bethune, the secretary treasurer of the Board.

The inquiry lasted for two and one-half days, and I now proceed to set forth in detail its results.

1. The Ottawa Collegiate Institute is at present under the management of an extremely efficient and representative

1

the second secon

till and the same of the same and the state of t * the second control of AND THE RESIDENCE OF THE PARTY THE RESIDENCE OF THE PARTY OF T and a local parties of the probability of the parties are properties and the parties and the parties are properties and the parties are parties parties are parties are parties are parties are parties are parties and the parties are partie Application and the filter, December of all and March Alexanders in NAME AND POST OF THE PERSON OF PART OF PERSONS ASSESSED AND ADDRESS OF THE PERSON OF T AT AT A REAL PROPERTY OF THE PERSON AND ADDRESS OF THE PARTY OF THE PA properties that the second of and a plant to the proof and building a collective metric and plant and an area TANK IN THE PARTY AND ADDRESS OF TAXABLE PARTY AND ADDRESS OF TAXABLE PARTY. THE RESERVE AND THE PROPERTY AND THE PRO The same of the sa to a file of the control of the second secon and the country of part above one process was not a second or comment of the country of the coun THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF THE the being broken with the state of the state The same and the same and the same above the same and the THE STATE OF STREET AND STREET SHARE STREET STREET, ST

board of trustees with a secretary-treasurer of wide experience and of high standing in the community.

- was confined to one building, that on Lisgar Street, which had grown steadily for many years past until it had become necessary to erect another building. This building was erected in that part of the southern portion of the City of Ottawa commonly called "The Glebe" and is a large, modern, fully equipped High School.
- two Institutes in September last was distributed as follows, at the Lisgar School 508 boys and 373 girls, a total of 881, and at the Glebe School 624 boys and 563 girls, a total of 1187, making a grand total of 2068, an increase in numbers since 1921 of more than 700. This increase was due in large measure to the rapid growth of the city and to the coming into force of the Adolescent Schools Act, which requires all children to attend school up to the age of sixteen years. During the month of October the attendance of the pupils at the Lisgar school was 96.9 per cent. of the enrollment and that at the Glebe school 95.7 per cent. The teaching staff, including the principal and vice-principal, comprise a total of 62, of which 46 are men and 16 are women, two of the latter being librarians.
- had reference to the dances, the evidence was largely directed towards disclosing the exact conditions under which the dances in question were held. These dances fall into three distinct categories. (a) There are held during the school year at each of the two schools two or three dances comprising the annual "At Home" held during the Christmas season, a Cadet dance usually given by the Cadets of both schools, and the Senior Lyceum dance given under the ausprices of the Senior Lyceum or debating Society of each school. In addition a dance is sometimes given

.

*

to entertain some visiting school team such as was given last year in the Lisgar School for the entertainment of the Cornwall hockey team. (b) What are commonly known as "Form Dances" are organized by the pupils of one or more Forms, with the permission and usually under the direction and chaperonage of the teacher or teachers of the Forms giving the dance, and (c) The dances given by "the Collegians Dance Club" which have no connection whatever with either of the two Collegiate Institutes and are not in any way under the supervision or control of the Board or the teaching staff.

The first of these class dances are held under what seems to me to be the strictest possible conditions as to supervision and conduct. From the statements made by Dr. McDougall and the other members of the staff, the teachers, the caretakers and the students, it appears that these dances are always held in a restricted portion of one or other of the two school buildings, withone door only for entrance and exit, and that all the corridors unused portions of the building are kept securely locked and impossible of access by any of those attending the dances. The only portions open for the pupils are the gymnasium or hall for the purpose of dancing, the cloak rooms and some room in which refreshments are No one is admitted except by ticket and outsiders are excluded, except that at the cadet dances officers of other cadet corps in the City of Ottawa are sometimes present by invitation. The dances are invariably chaperoned by several teachers and their wives, and on most occasions Dr. and Mrs. McDougall have themselves been present, and also several of the unmarried female teachers. The janitor of the school is always present for the purpose of seeing that the regulations as to locking up etc. are observed, and of preserving order, if necessary. There is the strictest supervision over the attendance and conduct in the supper room.

the to be a second of the second o * · · the same and the s e e 4 I a become because the first tags has been become a become and the same of th *

No one is permitted to leave the building for any purpose whatsoever except that of going home; in other words it is impossible under the regulations for one or more pupils to leave the building temporarily and then to return. The dances are never permitted to continue beyond midnight. There was not a tittle of evidence to indicate that at any of these school dances had there ever been any immoral or improper or objectionable conduct or drinking. On the contrary the experience of those who were called before me made it clear that nothing of the objectionable character suggested by Dr. Wyllie had ever taken place at any of the One master stated that at a cadet dance a visiting dances. officer had attempted to smoke during the course of the evening and that he had been requested either to desist or to leave with his companion, and also that he had had to speak to one or two boys about attempting to smoke in the cloak room.

drive which had taken place after one of the school dances and at which beer had been obtained in Hull was left unverified.

Dr. Wyllie said that when he endeavoured to procure from the girl who had informed him of the incident some verification of it he found that she had had, as he expressed it, a convenient lapse of memory with the result that no evidence was forthcoming to indicate whether the alleged sleigh drive had ever taken place or not. There was the evidence of the janitor and others in charge of the dance after which this was alleged to have occurred, to the effect that they had not seen any sleigh load of pupils leaving the dance. If the incident

1

ø

r ·

A.

,

.

ever occurred, which seems to me to be extremely doubtful, it would appear to be an isolated case, and it may well be that the nature of it has been largely exaggerated either in the mind of Dr. Wyllie or of his informant. Those experienced in the hearing and weighing of evidence will readily understand that upon cross-examination the evidence of Dr. Wyllie's informant, if she were in the witness box, might dissolve into thin air. No importance can be attached to the hearsay statement of Dr. Wyllie. In any event the sleigh drive was obviously something beyond the control of the school staff, though if a teacher really accompanied a party of pupils upon such an expedition for such a purpose he would have to be disciplined.

The "Form Dances" are not under the same rigid control as the regular school dances. The practice has been to hold these dances not in either of the two Collegiate School buildings, but in some church hall or club, or dance hall, or public school hall and often in the home of one of the pupils. In the winter they are frequently preceded by a sleigh drive. No Form Dance is ever held without the attendance permission of the Form teacher and is governed by invitation and is usually limited to the pupils of the Form or Forms organzing the dance. And they are always chaperoned by one or more of the form teachers, and sometimes in addition by other members of the staff. Except as to one dance there was no evidence indicating that there had been any immoral or improper conduct or any smoking or drinking on the part of the pupils. It is obvious that when dances are so held in halls outside the Collegiate buildings there cannot be quite the same strict control over the coming and going of those

attending the dances and that much depends upon the chaperons and the good sense of the pupils themselves. But, while recognizing the possibility of improper conduct on these occasions, I can see no reason for assuming that it is any more likely to occur at a dance organized by one of the school Forms than at a private dance held in any public hall or club. It was clearly established in my judgment that the Staff of the Collegiate Institute had done all that was reasonably possible to exercise supervision and control over the Form Dances.

- which had been preceded by a sleigh drive. Apparently the sleigh drive had in some way been unchaperoned, but the teacher in charge of the Form was at the Church hall when the sleighing party arrived. He stated that several of the boys commenced to smoke and that he found it impossible to stop it and that there was some horseplay among the boys. Apart from that there was no evidence of any improper conduct on the part of the pupils. I think that what occurred was simply an isolated sporadic occurrence such as will occasionally break out in any school.
- organized by two young men who had entered into a registered partnership under the name of "Collegians Dance Club". The young men had previously been but no longer were Collegiate Students. The dances were commonly called "Collegian Dances" but the Collegiate authorities had nothing to do with them and did not sanction them. Efforts were made to advertise the dances in and about the schools but the staff refused to allow the dances to be promoted inside the schools and the janitors removed any notices or advertisements posted near

There can be no doubt that the mame "Collegian" the schools. given to the Club and its dances was designed to attract Collegiate pupils and it may well be that parents and others were misled by the name and may have entertained the belief that these dances were held with the authority and under the supervision of the Collegiate Staff. There is of course an element of danger in these unsupervised dances but I do not know what the Collegiate authorities can do, more than they have done, to make it clear that the Collegiate Institute is in no way responsible for them., I fancy that the publicity given to the matter during the course of the Inquiry will have made it abundantly clear to the parents and public of Ottawa that the so-called "Collegian" Dances have no connection whatever with the Collegiate Institutes and that they must themselves assume the full responsibility for allowing their children to attend them. I ought to add in fairness to the Collegians Dance Club, that there was absolutely no evidence that their dances had not been properly managed or of any improper conduct during such dances.

or others at any of the School ormForm Dances or otherwise in or about the schools. The caretaker of the Lisgar School stated that en an occasion he found two empty bottles behind the lockers in the boys' cloak-room, but this was not after a dance and there was nothing to indicate that they had been left there by any of the boys. The caretaker sid that there are several doors to the building (which must be kept unlocked during school hours in case of fire) and that tradesmen, drivers or workmen frequently enter the building in the course of their duty and that the bottles might have been

n and a second and a - The same of the the same of the sa The same of the sa . The state of the I THE RESIDENCE THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN 2 IN COLUMN THE RESIDENCE OF PERSONS AND ADDRESS OF TAXABLE PARTY AND ADDRESS OF TAXABLE PARTY. street. That has a small before the latter plants by a room or proved again. ATTACAMENT OF TAXABLE PARTY AND ADDRESS OF TAXABLE PARTY. The attendance of the compact of the agents attended to the same ways. THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF TH grown printly along this problem than the hypothesis and the little distribution THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF THE AND RESIDENCE OF THE PARTY OF T ARROYATE OR THE WINDS AND THE TOTAL PROPERTY OF THE STREET, MANY PROPERTY OF type has an inches and different month and had properly thinks built ATTEMPT AND ADDRESS OF TAXABLE PROPERTY.

the building for that purpose. I can see no reason for assuming from this incident that any boys had been drinking. Even if there had been an isolated case of surreptitious drinking, the incident does not justify the sweeping charge that there had been drinking at any of the School or Form Dances.

- 11. During the course of the enquiry Dr. Wyllie stated that a former pupil of the Collegiate, now in business in Ottawa, had, since the inquiry began, told him that he was willing to give evidence as to the drinking of liquor at one of the Cadet Dances. but wished to do so before myself and Mr. McDougall, and under the condition that his name and identity should not be disclosed to the Collegiate authorities. While I had no objection in a proper case, to hearing evidence in camera, it was clearly improper and unthinkable that anyone should be permitted to give evidence involving the control and supervision of one of the School Dances without giving the authorities an opportunity of testing his evidence by the usual methods of cross-examination. It might well be that the individual in question had good reason for desiring to conceal his identity, quite apart from the suggestion by Dr. Wyllie that there was an organized boycott against anyone who might come forward as a witness to support his charges. This suggestion of an organized boycott as if it were a fact. like the other sweeping statements made by Dr. Wyllie, was not substantiated or verified in the slightest degree.
- whose desire that her name should not be disclosed I alluded to)
 who swore that two years ago she had cut from the Ottawa "Citizen"
 a letter mentioning the allegation that there was a great
 deal of drinking at young peoples' dances and motor parties,
 and had sent it in a letter to Dr. McDougall, the Principal.

This letter she had handed to her daughter to be given to her teacher, and by him to be given to Dr. McDougall. There was no evidence that it had ever reached the teacher or Dr. McDougall. Dr. McDougall swere that he had no recollection of it. The letter in the newspaper made no mention of school dances, and there was nothing to connect the matter with the Collegiate Institute. If Dr. McDougall ever received this communication, he might well have thrown it in the waste basket. The lady admitted that she did not approve of school dances in any shape or form and would not permit her children to attend them.

with the other matters raised by Dr. Wyllie. He failed utterly to prove any of his sweeping statements. There was no evidence whatever that "the attitude of pupil towards teacher was abominable" or that "pupils boast of the manner in which they sauce their Instructors" or of "any loosening of morals" or of any "disrespect for discipline and authority". Nor was there any evidence to justify the statement that many of the boys and girls "have unlimited money allowances" or "come from homes were drinking and smoking by boys and girls are openly tolerated" or that "many of the boys have the most profane habits of talk", or as to the continued presence on the walls of the Lis gar School lavatories of obscene drawings and sayings.

As to all these statements, any one with experience of school life knows that there have always been instances of insubordination, and of criminal or improper conduct, and that profane habits of speech and the practice of writing obscenities in school lavatories is unfortunately too prevalent, and as long as human nature is as it is, these things will continue. But these things are quite independent of any system of schooling, and so far as any evidence adduced before me and correborated, are no more

+

prevalent in the Ottawa Collegiate Institute than in any other School, whether public or private, religious or secular.

that the women teachers of the Ottawa Collegiate Institute are not quite capable of teaching growing boys. So long as the system of co-education in our High Schools is maintained (and quite apart from any question as to the wisdom or otherwise of the system, it is obvious that financial considerations necessitate its continuance in most places) it will doubtless be necessary that some of the teaching of boys will be by women teachers. The statistical statements put in by the Board show that out of a staff of 62 there are only 14 lady teachers (exclusive of the two librarians) and that the majority of them are of wide and long experience in teaching. The Reports of the High School Inspector for some years past show that the Ottawa Collegiate Institute
Staff ranks as high as any in the Province in efficiency.

incidents which Dr. Wyllie put forward at the opening of the Inquiry or during its course had all come to his notice after he had made the statements or which the Board complained, and that he did not proffer or attempt to prove a single incident as having come to his notice before he made the sweeping and disturbing statement that there were "conditions prevalent in the yearly dances and social gatherings that are simply unspeakable." I find it difficult to understand how one occupying a position of responsibility such as Dr. Wyllie presumably does, could have had so little regard for the effect of his words as to utter such sweeping and slanderous statements to the public without being prepared to justify them when called upon to do so. Had he been the defendant in a metion for libel, as he might well have been, he would find it a

- 7 2e THE RESERVE THE PARTY OF THE PA the fact that the same and the AND REAL PROPERTY AND ADDRESS OF THE PARTY ADDRESS OF THE PARTY AND ADD water transfer for the first of the first facilities from the second of the first first · The state of the s

matter of some difficulty to escape severe condemnation at the hands of a jury, when confronted with the onus of explaining or justifying his statements, and with the fact that the rules of law excluded hearsay evidence.

- 16. I think I may sum up shortly by saying that Dr. Wyllie has failed completely to justify his statements, and that, so far as the evidence discloses, there is no reason to believe that any of the conditions which he alleged as rendering it unsafe for parents to send their children to the Ottawa Collegiate Institute exist at all, or that the management and supervision of the schools and of the social activities of the pupils are not as efficient and perfect as is reasonably possible.
- ations I may see fit. I do not think any are really called for. If the evidence taken during the course of the Inquiry has suggested any improved methods of control over the School and Form Dances or any more effective means of dis-associating the "Collegian" dances from the Collegiate Institutes in the minds of the parents and the public, the Board and the staff will know much better how to deal with them than I do, and I am quite satisfied that they will not fail to act if they deem it necessary.
- 18. I desire to express my appreciation of the valuable assistance given me in the preparation for the Inquiry and during the hearing, by Mr. J. Lorn McDougall, the Counsel appointed to assist me, and by Mr. Cecil Bethune, the efficient Secretary-Treasurer of the Board.
- 19. This Report to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, will be accompanied by a copy of the evidence taken before me.

DATED at Osgoode Hall, Toronto, this

Janu F. When

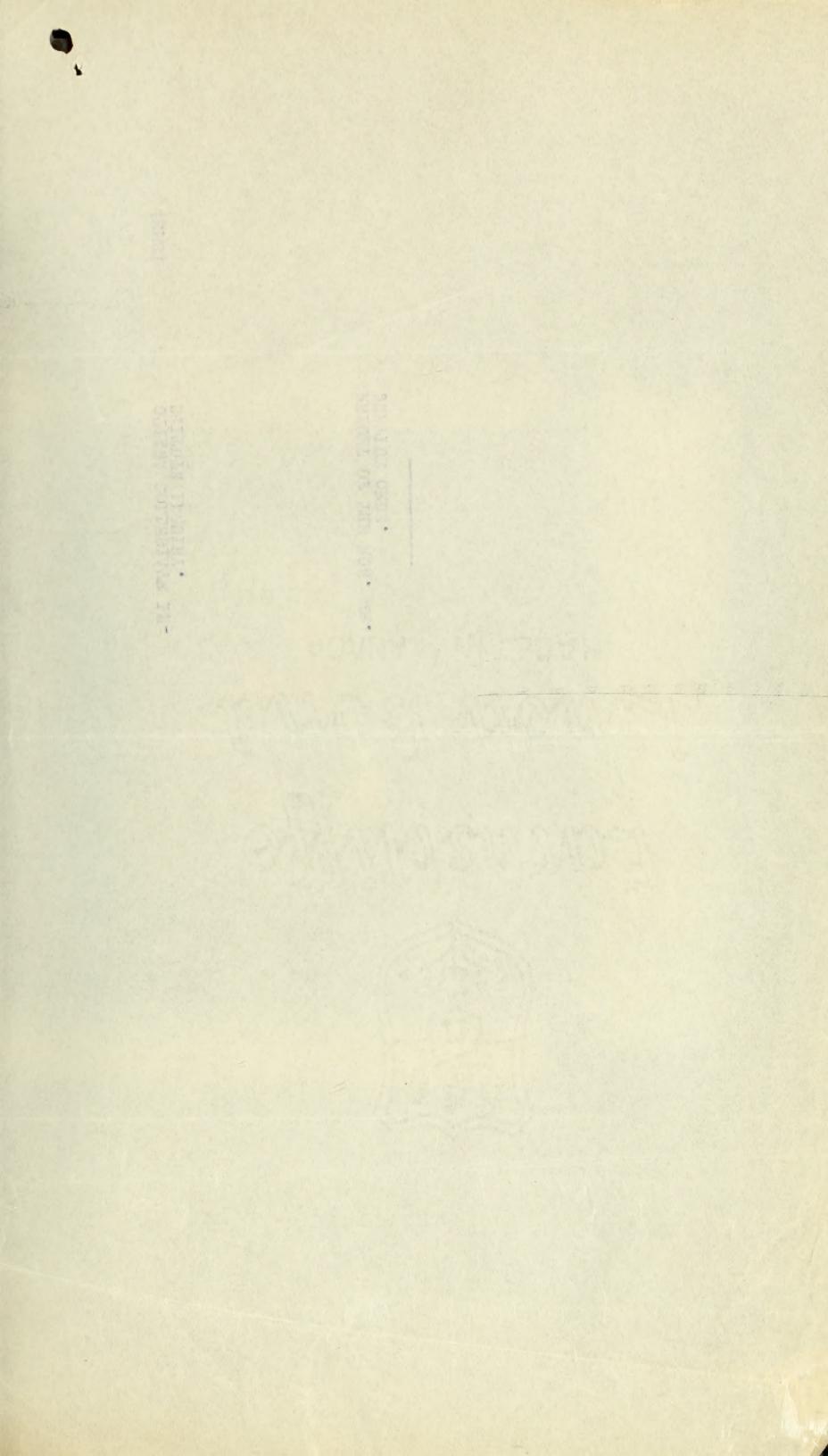
Commendainer

matter of some difficulty to escape severe condemnation at the hands of a jury, when confronted with the onus of explaining or justifying his statements, and with the fact that the rules of law excladed hearsay evidence.

- 16. I think I may sum up shorely by expine that Dr. Wyllie has failed completely to justify his statements, and that, so far as the evidence discloses, there is no reason to believe that may of the conditions which he slleged as rendering it unsafe for parents to send their children to the Ottawa Collegiste Institute exist at all, or that the management and supervision of the schools and of the social setivities of the pupils are not as efficient and perfect as is reasonably possible.
 - 17. My Commission superers me to make any recommendations I may see fit. I do not think any are really called for. If the evidence taken during the course of the Inquiry has suggested any improved methods of control over the School and Form Denoes or any more affective means of dis-associating the "Collegian" dances from the Collegiate Institutes in the minds of the parents and the public, the Board and the staff will know much better how to deal with them than I do, and I am quite satisfied that they will not fail to act if they are it necessary.
 - 18. I desire to exprese my appreciation of the valuable sesistance given me in the preparation for the inquiry and during the hearing, by Mr. J. Lorn McDougall, the Counsel appointed to assist me, and by Mr. Cooll Bethune, the afficient Secretary-Frequire of the Board.
 - 19. This Report to His Honour the Lisutenant-Covernor, will be secompanied by a copy of the evidence taken before ma.

 DATHS at Osgoode Hell, Toronto, this of the control of the control

day of January, A.D. 1927.



JUSTICE ORDE.